

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

714/744 P STREET

SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

SDMS
124474

PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Kern Front Oilfield
East of Highway 65 North of Bakersfield
Oildale, CA 93308

History and Problem:

This site has been occupied by oil wells for at least 30-40 years. Approximately 18 different oil company operators are located at the site.

For years, waste by-products of the oil production operation, including drilling muds, scrubber wastes, and production waste water, have been dumped into sumps adjacent to each drilling site. There are also some injection wells on-site which have been used for disposal of drilling muds.

Although some drilling muds are considered to be hazardous wastes because they contain corrosive or toxic additives, the drilling muds which have been disposed at this site have not been found to be hazardous by either the California Department of Health Services (DHS) or the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB). The CVRWQCB regularly inspects the sumps within this oilfield and requires monitoring of both groundwater and surface run off (which is reclaimed for irrigation). No water pollution problems have developed as a result of these oilfield operations.

The Kern front oil field lies in an arid region. There are no residential or recreational land uses nearby and little potential for waste migration.

Recommendation:

The local health department and Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board have been monitoring water quality near the oil field and no major contamination problems have been identified. Since available information does not indicate hazardous wastes have been disposed onsite, no further investigation is recommended.

**PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT
Region 9**

Preparer's Name Linda Kruse

Date February 1984

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
1. Site ID Number	ERRIS Turnaround Document	CAD980695258
2. Site Name	ERRIS Turnaround Document	Kern Front Oilfield
3. Site Location	EPA IX Form 824 November 3, 1982	East of Hwy 65 north of Bakersfield Oildale, CA 93308
4. County	ERRIS Turnaround Document	Kern
5. Owner (Address & telephone no.)	EPA IX Form 824 November 3, 1982	Chevron U.S.A. (805) 393-0847 Route 1, Kern River Oilfield Oildale, CA 93308
6. Operator (Address & telephone no.)	EPA IX and RWQCB's Scott Smith See T/C memo dated 2/15/84	There are 18 owner/operators Main ones are Getty Oil, Chevron, Petro-Lewis, Kressmont, Santa Fe, and Mobil Oil Company
7. Type of Ownership	Scott Smith 2/15/84, RWQCB telephone contact	Private Oil Companies
8. Status	RWQCB and "Per Div. Sonat DHS T&E Div."	
9. Source Activity	Contact"	Active
	RWQCB -- See 2/15/84 memo of call	Oil field production -- drilling
10. Years of Operation	RWQCB-Scott Smith	1930s or 40s to present
11. Facility Type	2/15/84 telephone contact with Scott Smith (RWQCB)	Oilfield -- individual wells often sharing mud disposal/reclamation facilities No public access
12. Waste Type and Description	RWQCB T/C Scott Smith, 2/15/84 40 CFR 5-621 "hazardous waste criteria"	Drilling muds with bentonite and chromium additives, scrubber wastes, and production water. Each well drilled produces an unspecified amount of drilling mud which is often retained in nearby sumps. The mud is mostly water and soil and is not hazardous according to 40 CFR.

13.	<p>Contacts RWQCB Central Valley -- Scott Smith, (209) 445-5116; DHS -- Toxics Division, N. CA Section, Fresno, Mohinder Sandhu and Bill Haggi, (209) 861-6676; Kern Co. Health Dept., Bakersfield, Richard Casagrande, (805) 861-3636; DHS Toxic Division -- Dave Storm, (916) 324-1807</p>
14.	<p>Incidents</p> <p>None Recorded At Agencies Checked</p> <p>Fire and Explosion ____ Direct Contact ____</p>
15.	<p>Inspections (date, type, by whom, recommendations)</p> <p>No inspection information available at agencies checked</p>
16.	<p>Enforcement History (list date, type of action, requirements, outcome)</p> <p>No records available</p>
17.a.	<p>Initial recommendation for further action:</p> <p>No further action</p>
17.b.	<p>EPA recommendation for further action:</p>
18.	<p>Response, Termination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Further Action ____ Pending ____ Active</p> <p>Justification: <i>Concur with DDT's findings and recommendations</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Thomas G. R. I.</i> <i>8/1/84</i></p>

There does not appear to be an uncontrolled hazardous waste problem at this facility. No further CERCLA action is required. H/Rob 5/15/85

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
19. Observed Release		
20. Depth to Aquifer		
21. Net Precipitation Net seas. rainfall Evaporation		
22. Permeability of Unsaturated Zone		
23. Physical State		
24. Containment (Ground Water)		
25. Toxicity		
26. Persistence		
27. Waste Quantity		
28. Ground Water Use		
29. Distance to Well		
30. Population Served (by Ground Water)		

	SOURCE	INFORMATION
31. Facility Slope		
32. 1 yr. 24 hr. rainfall		
33. Distance to Surface Water		
34. Containment (Surface Water)		
35. Surface Water Use		
36. Distance to Sensi- tive Environment		
37. Population Served (by Surface Water)		
38. Distance to Water Intake		
39. Reactivity		
40. Incompatibility		
41. Toxicity (Air)		
42. Population within 4 mile radius		
43. Land Use		